



The Lens's View (...or; so Deb said;)

It's no surprise to anyone that this year produced a bumper crop of photos. Between us, and despite some poorly organised wedding bookings, Tery and I managed to cover most events in the Dragon Boat calendar. Help from our backup photographers came when needed, so thanks go to Jason, Helen and Baby Shark plus a special thank you to Monsieur Orchard and his mighty umbrella.



My memories of the year behind the camera are vividly colourful – the Tiger Beer Festival, Dragon dancing, inspired costumes and

energetic people made where-ever we were into a photographer's playground. I even had to face danger-danger-Will-Wobinson on a couple of occasions, notably a chocolate icecream attack to my lens hood (friendly toddler) and a threat to cut off Tery's nose if I missed a certain photo (friendly pirate) but I laugh in the face of such dangers. No cutlass-wielding pirate is more than a boot in the bum compared to a nice man in a rescue boat who offered to race me alongside the team.

It's Photos Forever's third year as a team sponsor and our first season as sponsor/member so we're pretty well established on the scene. Other paddlers increasingly recognise us and I hope that our continued presence inspires other teams to seek photo backup from their own supporters. One paddler told me her team has no photographic record from all their years of paddling which is a bit sad when you think about it. It's a great sport.



Photos Forever



Favourite photos from the year? Well, the variety of venues and special events plus the bonus of SOME of our team getting into the mood and costume added some spice to the shots. Believe me; racing photos can become a tad repetitive for both photographer and audience who aren't obsessively interested in whether all the paddles are in sync so I'm always on the lookout for something a bit fun. Ignoring the obvious photo of the free-styling pirate my favourite photos are sinking boats, and this commentator who deserves nothing better than to be remembered (for his appreciation of the weather? Ed.).

Thanks everyone for a wonderful year and farewell to beautiful Cirina and Jay (who always had his camera ready).

- Deb



MMM Most Memorable Moments

Chasing the race in the rescue boat in Auckland... and my most memorable 'feeling' to describe the season was closeness.. -DH

